

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-02

SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 INR-07 CIAE-00 /053 W

----- 125792

O P 111430Z MAR 75

FM AMCONSUL ASMARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3260

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

CINCUSNAVEUR PRIORITY

COMNAVTELCOM PRIORITY

USCINCEUR PRIORITY

COMIDEASTFOR PRIORITY

NAVCOMMUNIT ASMARA PRIORITY

NAVCOMMSTA NEA MAKRI PRIORITY

DIRNSA WASHDC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASMARA 0323

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINT, PFOR, ET, US

SUBJ: FUEL FOR KAGNEW POWER PLANT

REF: A) NAVCOMMUNIT ASMARA 091040Z MAR 75;

B) NAVCOMMUNIT ASMARA 092100Z MAR 75

C) STATE 35132

D) NAVCOMMUNIT ASMARA 110950Z MAR 75

1. AS INDICATED REF A, RESUMPTION ADEQUATE DIESEL FUEL DELIVER-  
IES UNDER MOBIL CONTRACT YGR OPERATION KAGNEW POWER PLANT STILL  
NOT ACCOMPLISHED. LAST DIESEL DELIVERY WAS JAN 19.

2. CONTINUED OPERATION OF POWER PLANT AT PRESENT LEVEL, I.E.  
ONLY ONE OF FOUR GENERATORS IN USE AT APPROX 36 PERCENT OF  
CAPACITY, WILL MEET ALL USG NEEDS AS WELL AS THOSE OF TRACTS E  
& A OCCUPIED BY ETH MILITARY. DIESEL FUEL CONSUMPTION FOR  
THIS GENERATOR TOTALS APPROXIMATELY 60,000 GALS/MO. IN THE  
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PAST, TWO TRUCKS W/TRAILER (DOUBLES) PER WEEK BROUGHT

REQUIRED AMOUNT OF DIESEL FUEL FROM MASSAWA TO ASMARA  
UNDER CONTRACT WITH MOBIL AT A DUTY FREE PRICE OF US  
\$.48/GAL.

3. SINCE THE EMERGENCY, THE MILITARY HAS HAD TO ORGANIZE CONVOYS  
TO BRING MOGAS, JET FUEL, AND DIESEL FROM MASSAWA TO ASMARA. THE  
DIESEL FUEL THAT HAS ARRIVED HAS BEEN SOLD THROUGH NORMAL  
DISTRIBUTION CHANNELS AT AN EXISE-PAID PRICE OF US \$.90/GAL.  
IF DIESEL CANNOT BE PROCURED UNDER CONTRACT, NAVCOMMUNIT/  
CISCO WILL HAVE TO BUY AT THIS PRICE, PAYING CASH. AS YET  
THEY HAVE NOT RPT NOT PURCHASED ANY DIESEL. TRANSPORTERS  
HAVE BEEN RELUCTANT TO OPERATE AT ALL, AND IT HAS PROVED  
IMPOSSIBLE TO DATE TO REESTABLISH DELIVERY OF DIESEL AT  
PREVIOUS LEVELS TO KAGNEW UNDER THE MOBIL CONTRACT.

4. CONOFF AND SENIOR MAAG ADVISOR MET WITH AGENT FOR TRUCKERS  
(FALLASCI) WHO SAID NO PROBLEM IN SECURING DIESEL AT MASSAWA  
TERMINAL. HE HAS PROVIDED 26 TRUCKS WITH 5 DRIVERS TO ARMY  
TO TRANSPORT POL FROM MASSAWA TO ASMARA. HE FEELS WE SHOULD BE  
ABLE TO PERSUADE ARMY TO MEET OUR NEEDS THROUGH UTILIZATION THESE  
TRANSPORT FACILITIES. LOCAL MOBIL REP (ABDELKADIR BAAGIL) SAYS  
ANY DIESEL WE GET FROM MOBIL MASSAWA DEPOT WILL BE UNDER  
CONTRACT,  
BUT TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS HAVE TO BE MADE THROUGH THE ARMY.  
IN SUBSEQUENT MEETING WITH G-4, 2ND DIV# SR MAAG ADVISOR WAS TOLD  
2ND DIV. WILL ASSURE DELIVERY ONE TRUCK/TRAILER LOAD (35,000  
LITERS) OF DIESEL PER WEEK. PROVISION OF A SECOND TRUCK/TRAILER  
LOAD PER WEEK APPEARS DEPENDENT ON PROVISION ADDITIONAL DRIVER.  
WE INTEND APPROACH MOBIL AGAIN TOMORROW (MARCH 12) AND TRY TO  
PERSUADE COMPANY TO PROVIDE ANOTHER DRIVER. IF MOBIL CANNOT  
PRODUCE DRIVER, WE WILL PASS REQUIREMENT TO 2ND DIV. IT MADE CLEAR  
TO 2ND DIV. G-4 THAT CONTINUED PROVISION POWER TO 2ND DIV PORTION  
TRACT E DEPENDENT UPON PROVISION ADEQUATE DIESEL FUEL.

5. ONCE CITY CONNECTIONS COMPLETED AND KAGNEW POWER PLANT CALLED  
UPON TO PROVIDE POWER TO ASMARA CITY, PROBABLY WITHIN 2 WEEKS,  
FUEL DEMAND WILL INCREASE DRAMATICALLY. OF THE FOUR GENERATORS,  
ONE WILL CONTINUE TO OPERATE, AS AT PRESENT, TO MEET USG AND ETH  
MIL NEEDS. ONE WILL REMAIN IN RESERVE FOR USG REQUIREMENTS. TWO  
WILL BE OPERATED (SLOWED DOWN) AT APPROX  
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75 PERCENT OF CAPACITY (OR CLOSE TO  
100 PERCENT IF WATER COOLING CAN BE ARRANGED) TO PROVIDE CITY  
POWER AT 50 HZ. TO APPROX HALF OF CITY. OTHER HALF  
WILL CONTINUE TO USE 50 HZ. POWER FROM MASSAWA AS LONG  
AS IT AVAILABLE. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, TOTAL  
DIESEL FUEL REQUIREMENT WILL LEAP TO SOMETHING OVER  
300,000 GALS/MO.

6. MEETING AM 11 MARCH WITH ELPA OFFICIALS, USVAV AND CISCO REPS PRODUCED FOLLOWING SCHEDULE ESTABLISHED BY ELPA FOR PROVISION OF POWER TO CITY BY KAGNEW:

12 OR 13 MARCH - COMPLETE WINDING AUTOTRANSFORMERS FOR 4160/5500 VOLT CONVERSION

14-16 MARCH - TEST TRANSFORMER IN ELPA LAB

17 MARCH - SUZYIT POWER AND FUEL REQUIREMENTS TO NAVY REP FOG

APPROVAL OR REVISION. BEGIN INSTALLATION OF TRANSFORMER AT TRACT "E".

19 MARCH - ELPA SUBMIT LETTER ON FUEL REQUIREMENTS TO BG GETACHEW STATING BOTH MONTHLY USAGE AND REQUIREMENT FOR RESERVE OF 380,000 GALS PRIOR TO CONNECTION KAGMDH WITH CITY. (ELPA OFFICIALS SEEMED UNCONCERNED ABOUT ACTUAL DELIVERY AND PAYMENT FOR FUEL, APPEARING TO BELIEVE GOVT WILL TAKE CARE OF IT.)

20 MARCH (APPROX) - COMPLETE INSTALLATION OF TRANSFORMER AND CONDUCT SIX-HOUR TEST UNDER PARTIAL LOAD TO CONFIRM GENERATOR OPERATION AT 50 HZ. UPON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF TEST, ELPA WOULD BE READY TO GO "ON-LINE" TO CITY.

ELPA OFFICIALS WERE RE-ADVISED THAT NO PROVISION OF POWER TO CITY WOULD BE MADE WITHOUT ACTUAL PRIOR PROVISION OF REQUIRED RESERVE OF DIESEL AT TRACT "E".

7. IN ADDITION TO CENTRAL KAGNEW POWER PLANT NEEDS ATTRACT E AS NOTED ABOVE, DIESEL WILL ALSO BE REQUIRED AT TRACT D (4,025 GALS/WK) AND AT TRACT B (3500 GALS/WK) FOR NAVCOMMUNIT/CISCO MISSION NEEDS. FUEL AT TRACTS B & D WILL NOT BE TRANSFERRED TO TRACT E  
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AS IT IS REQUIRED FOR MISSION NEEDS AND IT IMPRACTICAL ATTEMPT MAKE SUCH TRANSFER. THEREFORE, WHEN DISCUSSING KAGNEW POWER PLANT NEEDS, TRACT E FUEL SUPPLY ONLY IS RELEVANT, ALTHOUGH OVERALL FUEL NEEDS MUST BE MET. AS INDICATED REF B, TRACT E DIESEL SUPPLY NOW DOWN TO LESS THAN 64,000 GALS. BEFORE ANY POWER CAN BE PROVIDED TO CITY, NOT ONLY MUST OPERATIONAL FUEL NEEDS BE GUARANTEED, BUT TRACT E TANKS FILLED TO CAPACITY OF 380,000 GALS. THIS ALSO REQUIRES COMPLETION REPAIR ONE FUEL TANK DAMAGED DURING FEB 7 ROCKET ATTACK.

8. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT EMB, ADDIS ABABA, PROCEED TO NEGOTIATE AGREEMENTS WITH EPMG AS PROPOSED REF C IN EXPECTATION WE ABLE ARRANGE FOR SUFFICIENT DIESEL NOW TO MEET OUR IMMEDIATE NEEDS.

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## Message Attributes

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